# Alumni Times



QUARTERLY CLARKSON COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

## Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory Survey Results

### Annual survey reveals students satisfaction with the College

By Chris Swanson, Institutional Effectiveness & Quality Assurance Coordinator

Clarkson College students recently completed the Noel-Levitz Student
Satisfaction Inventory (SSI), a national survey that measures student satisfaction across a broad spectrum of college life. This year, 21 percent of the student body participated.
This is the fifth year Clarkson College students have had the opportunity to let their "opinion count."

### Nearly 81 percent of students stated that Clarkson College was their first college choice.

The survey incorporates a two-prong approach for evaluation: how "important" an item is to an individual and his/her "satisfaction." On nearly all of the items surveyed, students expressed greater importance and satisfaction than students from the national comparison group. The top four most important aspects of and satisfaction with the Clarkson College experience expressed are as follows:

- The quality of instruction I receive in most of my classes is excellent.
- > The content of the courses within my major is valuable.
- Nearly all of the faculty members are knowledgeable in their field.
- > The instruction in my major field is excellent.
- > Class size at this institution facilitates my learning.

- > This institution has a good reputation within the community.
- > The Clarkson College website is easy to navigate.
- On the whole, the campus is wellmaintained.

When asked each of the five years, "Would you enroll here again?" an overwhelming majority of Clarkson College students indicated they would. This has been the case over the past five years and has been at a higher response rate than other four-year private institutions.

More good news from this year's survey is that Clarkson College was the first choice among schools for nearly 81 percent of our students, a number that is up almost 3.5 percent from last year.

All results from this year's SSI confirm the upward satisfaction trend our students have been indicating over the past five years. During this time, there have been changes made to improve a variety of student services and facilities as well as enhance academic and advising practices.

A constant over the past five years is that the results from the statement "This institution has a good reputation within the community" has always appeared high on the "Clarkson College Strengths" list from Noel-Levitz, a tribute to the College alumni who carry on the tradition of being those prepared students who professionally provide high quality, ethical and compassionate health care services to the community and the world.

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The **Alumni Times** is a quarterly publication that is distributed by the Alumni Association of Clarkson College at 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131. For story or photo submissions, please contact Rita VanFleet, Alumni Coordinator, at 402.552.3516 or via e-mail at **vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu**.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# Thanks & Looking Ahead at New Year



Summer is finally here! I hope everyone is having a safe and wonderful summer.

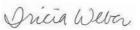
The Alumni Association has been busy. The membership drive started this May, and I would like to remind you to please fill out the membership form (page 9) and send it in to Rita VanFleet, Alumni

Coordinator. Joining the Alumni Association provides opportunities to mix, mingle and network with old friends as well as new acquaintances. Your membership matters. Membership dues are vital to fund Association programs, activities, communications and various academic support initiatives such as the Association's support for campus organizations, programs and scholarships. By doing your part as a passionate alumni member, you will help to ensure that Clarkson College continues to be strong for generations to come.

The new Alumni Association Board officers and members took office in June, and you will see some familiar faces again this year. The 2013-14 Board members are prepared and energized to start the new year. Once again, the Board is creating some great events and moving forward with the Alumni Association iPad Academy. The Alumni Association will continue to give back to the College community, publish quarterly newsletters and organize special programs and events to bring alumni together.

I have been privileged and honored to serve as the Alumni Association President for the year. I have met and worked with some amazing individuals throughout my term. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Rita VanFleet and the 2012-13 Alumni Association Board officers and members for their commitment and dedication to the Alumni Association. I have no doubt in my mind the new Board will continue to move the Alumni Association forward to achieve new goals.

Sincerely yours,



Trish Weber, M.H.A., R.T.(R), (C.T.) ('93, '08, '11)

Alumni Association President PH 402 552 3308 webertrish@clarksoncollege.edu



MICHELLE GLOW, THIS YEAR'S ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

# 2013 Alumni Scholarship Recipient

The Alumni Association awarded a \$2,500 scholarship to Radiologic Technology (RT) and Medical Imaging student Michelle Glow. She is a Westside High School graduate and earned a Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. Michelle plans to graduate from Clarkson College in fall 2014 with her Associate's degree in Radiologic Technology and Bachelor's degree in Medical Imaging.

The dual degree program option was a determining factor for Michelle's college decision. The decision was solidified after speaking with a Clarkson College RT student during a visit and observation at a local radiology department. The student had high regards for the Clarkson College program and expressed her excitement about her educational experiences to Michelle.

Michelle is the Radiologic Technology Student Association (RTSA) President and a tutor for anatomy, physiology, medical terminology and any RT/Medical Imaging courses. Her hobbies include rowing, biking, watching European soccer, baking and puzzles. Michelle has two siblings and a large extended family. After graduation, she hopes to travel to Europe, specifically to Ireland and England.

# 125 Years. One Scholarship.

Unlimited ways to help a current Clarkson College student

Several donations have been received for the 125th Anniversary Alumni Scholarship. This one-time scholarship is a way for the Alumni Association to honor and celebrate the founding of Clarkson College. The scholarship will be awarded during the 125th anniversary dinner held Sept. 20 at Joslyn Art Museum.

Donations are still being accepted, and you are invited to participate. Donations with a "125" or any dollar amount are appreciated. Your contributions are an excellent way to assist Clarkson College students as they pursue their education.

#### Donate

Checks should be made payable to Alumni Scholarship Fund and mailed to Alumni Coordinator, 101 South 42nd Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131. Questions may be directed to Rita VanFleet at vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu or 402.552.3516. All donors will be recognized for their donations in the October/November issue of the *Alumni Times*.

### New Alumni Association Officers & Board Members

The 2013-14 Alumni Association Board members and officers were nominated from an uncontested ballot. They began their duties on June 1.

#### **PRESIDENT**

#### Rachel Thompson, M.S.N., R.N.

Rachel graduated from the Clarkson College Bachelor of Science in Nursing program in 2004 and obtained her Master of Science in Nursing degree from the College in December 2012. She currently serves as Assistant Director of Undergraduate Nursing at the College Rachel has taken on the responsibility of heading the iPad Academy for the Alumni Association and is a great proponent of advanced technology use in the educational setting.

#### VICE PRESIDENT

#### Nickki Hardin, M.S., R.T.(R)(M) (CIIP)

Nickki received her Associate of Science degree in Radiologic Technology and Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Imaging from Clarkson College in 1995 and her Master of Science degree in Health Services Management in 1997. Nickki is the manager of the Radiology department at Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha, Neb.

#### **SECRETARY**

#### Carla Dirkschneider, M.S., RHIA

Carla graduated from Clarkson College with her Master of Science degree in Health Care Business Leadership in 2007. She is the Director of the Health Care Business program at Clarkson College.

#### **TREASURER**

#### Chera Tremblay, P.T.A., B.S.

Chera graduated from Wayne State University with her Bachelor's degree in 2004 and from Clarkson College with her Associate's degree in Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) in 2008. She is a faculty member and Assistant Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education for the Clarkson College PTA program.

#### DIRECTORS

#### Susan Bristol, B.S.N., R.N.

Susan earned her Diploma in Practical Nursing from Clarkson College in 1978. She obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1991 from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She is a freelance writer and has been published in *Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul, Ordinary Miracles in Nursing* and *Inspiring the Inspirational*, magazines and newsletters. She became a board member in order to be involved and reconnect with the College and its alumni.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD, FIRST ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, SUE LEUTZINGER, CHERA TREMBLAY & SUSAN BRISTOL. SECOND ROW, NICKKI HARDIN & RITA VAN FLEET. THIRD ROW, RACHEL THOMPSON & CARLA DIRKSCHNEIDER. FOURTH ROW, ANN HAGENAU, JEANETTE KASSMEIER & TRISH WEBER.

#### Ann Hagenau, M.S., R.T.(R)(M)

Ann is a three-time Clarkson College graduate. She received both her Associate of Science degree in Radiologic Technology and Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Imaging from Clarkson College in 1995. She obtained her Master of Science degree in Health Services Management from the College in 1997. Ann is a Radiologic Technology and Medical Imaging faculty member at the College. After the death of her son, Christopher, Ann and her family founded the CHRS foundation to help lower socioeconomic families in Omaha, Neb. and surrounding areas. To learn more about the wonderful work of CHRS foundation, visit chrscharity.org.

#### Jeanette Kassmeier, B.S.N., R.N., ONC

Jeanette (JJ) has worked at Clarkson Hospital—now The Nebraska Medical Center—since her graduation from Clarkson College in 1972. She currently serves as a Case Manager for the Ortho/Neuro specialty and is an Orthopedic Certified Nurse. JJ has volunteered many hours of her time to the Alumni Association over the years.

#### Sue Leutzinger, M.S.N., R.N.

Sue is an Assistant Professor at Clarkson College, teaching basic skills at the freshman level and medical-surgical nursing at the sophomore level. She also teaches the nurse refresher clinical component. Sue is a Clarkson College alumna, earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 1989 and her Master of Science in Nursing degree in 2009.

#### Trish Weber, M.S., R.T. (R) (CT)

Trish is an instructor in the Radiologic Technology and Medical Imaging programs at Clarkson College. She is a three-time Clarkson College graduate, receiving her Associate of Science degree in Radiologic Technology in 1995, her Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Imaging in 2008, and her Master of Science degree in Health Care Administration in 2011.

### **ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS**



THE EXTREME COUPONING TABLE WAS A THRIFTY ADDITION TO THIS YEAR'S EVENT FESTIVITIES.



THE COWGIRLS AT THE SHOOTOUT AT THE CC CORRAL TABLE SHOWED US CITY SLICKERS WHAT LIFE IS LIKE ON THE RANGE.



THE VEGAS TABLE BROUGHT THEIR LUCK & SMILES TO THE EVENT. LIFE WAS LIKE A DAY AT THE BEACH WITH THE BAHAMA MAMAS.



### **Annual Decorated Table Trivia Event a Success**

A brief recap of an enjoyable & creative trivia-filled Saturday morning

Decorated Table Trivia has become an annual event for the Alumni Association. June 1 saw the third annual event take place in Howard Hall. It was a smaller crowd this year due to some unexpected last-minute issues that kept four tables from participating. However, the remaining four table hostesses outdid themselves in creativity and fun.

Table hostesses this year were Jen Anderson ('10) with Extreme Couponing, Carla Dirkschneider ('07) with Shootout at the CC Corral, Rita VanFleet ('67, '94, '06) with Bahama Mamas and Trish Weber ('95, '08, '11) with Vegas. First place was awarded to Jen Anderson for her wonderful display of

coupons, files and purchased items for her table. She was awarded a free table at next year's event. Carla Dirkschneider's Shootout at the CC Corral took second place and featured a cowboy centerpiece and guests dressed in cowboy attire.

After a breakfast pizza brunch, seven rounds of trivia were played. Trivia topics included brain teasers, the Bible, national monuments. table themes, U.S. geography, animals and T.V. theme songs. Each round had eight questions per category, and all of the participants were extremely competitive in their attempts to answer the questions correctly. Stickers sold for \$5 a piece—were used for answers

if participants needed them. The Bahama Mamas table won the table trivia contest earning 52 out of 56 points. Each table guest was awarded a Starbucks gift card. Second place went to the Vegas table with 48 points.

The fun morning left guests excitedly discussing next year's table themes and event. Want to join in the fun? Save Saturday, June 7, 2014 as the date for the next Decorated Table Trivia event and plan to join us. Contact Alumni Coordinator Rita VanFleet at vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu or via phone at 402.552.3516 to reserve your spot. We look forward to seeing you next year!













FROM TOP, ADAM WETZEL TAKES A BREAK TO GREET MOSES & HIS MOM, STEPHANIE DELEIDI. DIANA STARBUCK SAYS, "HELLO" TO MAX & HIS OWNER, MIKE CHRISTENSEN. CHEYENNE & HER MOM, LAUREL HAMILTON, MAKE NEW FRIENDS WITH STUDYING STUDENTS.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP, WATSON CAN BARELY CONTAIN HIS EXCITEMENT AS HE MAKES HIS ROUNDS THROUGHOUT HOWARD HALL. COCO RECEIVES A HARDY BELLY RUB FROM A NEW FRIEND, ELIZABETH MURPHY SPENDS A MOMENT GREETING SARG. STUDENTS ENJOY DOTING ON LILY IN BETWEEN STUDY SESSIONS.

## **Alumni Association Sponsors Spring Finals Study Hall for Students**

The Alumni Association hosted the spring finals study hall April 22 and 23 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Howard Hall on campus. The purpose of the study hall is for students to find a quiet place to prepare for final exams.

Domesti-PUPS provided hour-long therapy dog visits both days to help students unwind and relax. The students were thrilled with the visitors and spent a lot of time with the dogs. The handlers were very good with the students, as well. The students were appreciative of Domesti-PUPS' visit and requested it become a reoccurring event during the sponsored study halls.

Monday's visitors were B.J. Addison and Coco, a chocolate lab; Laurel Hamilton and Cheyenne, an English black lab; and Laura

Safarik and Watson, a Lhasapoo. Tuesday's visitors were Ann Smith and Lily, a pit bull and breed ambassador; Mike Christensen and Max, a German shorthair mix; Shady Staton and Sarg, a boxer and Stephanie Deleidi and Moses, a Labradoodle. These teams were organized through the work of Kathy Torres from Domesti-PUPS.

The Alumni Association provided light snacks and fruit for the students during their study time. Nearly 100 students took advantage of the quiet study atmosphere and relaxation with the dogs.

# Capstone Review by Alumni Association Board

Graduate capstone project review for April 2013 graduates

Since the October/November 2011 edition of the newsletter, Capstone projects are featured after they are presented by the Master's program graduates. The Capstone experience allows each student to investigate a question of practical importance by utilizing the critical thinking skills, knowledge, strategies, theories and principles learned throughout the course of study. The final outcome of the Capstone experience includes completion of a scholarly, evidence-based document that can be further revised for potential publication or an actual document that can be used by practitioners, educators, administrators or clients.

The subcommittee once again reviewed the Capstone projects—Using the established rubric—submitted by the advisors for the April 2013 graduates and chose the top three Capstone projects for recognition.

Amanda Bogard's abstract, Facilitating Nurse Practitioner Use of Prescriptive Exercise in Overweight and Obese Adolescents, placed first. Second place was awarded to Laura Lombardo for her abstract, Evidence-Based Resources for PACU Nurses Responsible for Extubating Post-Operative Bariatric Surgical Patients. Third place winner was Nathan Kaiser for his abstract, Upper Respiratory Infections: A Patient-Focused Educational Tool.

#### Facilitating Nurse Practitioner Use of Prescriptive Exercise in Overweight & Obese Adolescents by Amanda Bogard

Background Rates of adolescent obesity are rising in the United States. Adolescents with an elevated body mass index (BMI) have an increased risk of adulthood obesity and associated chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension and dyslipidemia. Nurse practitioners face numerous challenges in assessing and treating these patients, including limited time during clinic visits and poor patient motivation or family support. Prescriptive exercise has been successful in increasing physical activity and decreasing BMI in adults and represents a potential intervention for treatment of the overweight and obese adolescent population.

**Purpose** The purpose of this project was to evaluate current literature related to prescriptive exercise and individual factors affecting adolescent physical

activity behaviors. The research was used to guide the development of a tool to help nurse practitioners efficiently incorporate prescriptive exercise into the treatment of overweight and obese adolescents.

Methodology Literature was reviewed from an extensive search of CINAHL, Medline, EBSCO and Google Scholar. Resources were limited to articles published from 2002 to the present. The guided tool was reviewed by primary care nurse practitioners and a physician for validation of its usefulness in clinical practice.

Brief Description A brief guided tool was designed based on Nola Pender's Health Promotion model. This was designed to evaluate the factors that contribute to an individual's physical activity behavior, including past experiences, personal barriers and perceived self-efficacy. This information could be used to create an exercise prescription for a physical activity goal established collaboratively between provider and patient.

Recommendations for Use The literature reports that the most successful physical activity goals are those that are tailored to the individual's abilities, preferences and resources. The goal of the guided tool is to incorporate individualized prescriptive exercise with nutrition counseling and behavioral therapy as part of a holistic treatment plan for overweight and obese adolescents.

### Evidence-Based Resources for PACU Nurses Responsible for Extubating Post-Operative Bariatric Surgical Patients by Laura Lombardo

Background Bariatric surgery is becoming increasingly more common with the rising levels of obesity. Registered nurses who work in surgical settings in acute care institutions must be proficient in care of these individuals. Current policies in surgical setting do not provide specific evidence-based information to refer to when they are met with the need to extubate the high-risk post-surgical bariatric patients.

**Purpose** The purpose of this project was to design an evidenced-based guideline and accompanying flowchart regarding the important assessments and observations to make prior to extubating a post-operative bariatric surgical patient.

Methodology Robert Gagné's principle learning and problem solving conditions of learning was used as the framework for the development of this project. Scholarly literature was reviewed and evidence-based nursing actions pertaining to these major concepts were incorporated in both the guideline and flowchart.

Brief Description The guideline is a five-page document that includes specific nursing interventions appropriate to assess and use to deter post-operative complications when extubating a patient who has undergone bariatric surgery. The flowchart is an 8.5" x 11" document using a decision tree format that summarizes the pertinent information provided in the guideline.

Recommendations for Use The goal of the guideline is for the PACU nurse to read to gain up-to-date evidence regarding post-operative care of patients who undergo bariatric surgery and specific nursing assessments and interventions that are appropriate to conduct prior to extubating a patient. The flowchart provides a quick visual summary of the pertinent information contained in the quideline.

Recommendations for Future Research
Examples of descriptive and comparative
studies that can be conducted using both
the guideline and flowchart are provided to
determine need for revision of documents
and PACU nurses' knowledge level of the
extubation procedure of the bariatric surgical
patient prior to and after introduction of
the resource.

### Upper Respiratory Infections: A Patient-Focused Educational Tool by Nathan Kaiser

**Background** Upper respiratory infections (URIs) are one of the most common reasons that patients present to primary care providers

(Woods, 2009). Patients seek care with the purpose of receiving an antibiotic and are granted their requests even though treatment guidelines do no support antibiotics for the treatment (Pratter, 2006).

Purpose The primary purpose of this project was to create an adult teaching brochure related to URIs that can be given to patients while they are waiting to be seen in the clinic, with the outcome of teaching patients on proper URI treatment. The brochure is based on research evaluating proper reading level (6th grade), color (yellow), font size (16) and patient preferences (Bernardini, Ambrogi, Fardella, Perioli & Guiliano, 2001).

Methodology Information for this paper was obtained by searching a variety of databases including CINAHL, Medline Plus and research articles related to upper respiratory infections. Guidelines for treatment were evaluated from a variety of online websites such as Up to Date, Epocrates and the Center for Disease Control, online journal articles and textbooks.

Brief Description The adult-focused brochure, based on Nola Pender's Health promotion model, stresses the patient's ability to autonomously treat URIs with proper education (Pender, 1996). The brochure was created with the purpose of decreasing the costs/number of office visits, decreasing the number of prescriptions and decreasing the cost of filling prescriptions associated with URIs. The brochure covers topics including a definition of URIs, symptoms of URIs, appropriate treatments, complementary and alternative medicine (CAMs), and the timeline in seeking out health care providers' services.

Recommendations for Use The brochure can be used in primary care clinics and given to patients who are awaiting health care services for URIs with the possible outcome of reducing health care costs and antibiotic usage.

Recommendations for Future Research Further research on the outcome of brochure usage is warranted. The focus of this research should be usefulness of the brochure in reducing cost and reducing antibiotic usage.

# GRADUATE CAPSTONE PROJECTS APRIL 2013 GRADUATES

Jean Beumler Knowledge and Attitudes Related to Complementary & Alternative Medicine in Upper Level BSN & MSN Students in a Small Midwestern College, advisor Dr. Linda Jensen

Amanda Bogard Facilitating Nurse Practitioner Use of Prescriptive Exercise in Overweight & Obese Adolescents, advisor Dr. Layna Himmelberg

**Lee Carlson** Improving Early Recognition of Symptoms of Myocardial Infarction by Rural Women, advisor Dr. Gloria Gross

Shannon Fecher Development of an Evidence-Based Guideline Regarding Various Aspects of Testosterone Replacement Therapy, advisor Dr. Mae Timmons

**Stephanie Hogan** Mock Emergency Scenarios: Recommendations for the Clinical Setting, advisor Dr. Nina Wardell

**Sherry Hron** Herbal & Alternative Remedies for Patients with Mild to Moderate Pain, advisor Dr. Linda Jensen

**Brandon & Erin Jordan** Perceptions of Faculty Using High-Fidelity Simulation, advisor Dr. Nina Wardell

**Nathan Kaiser** Upper Respiratory Infections: A Patient-Focused Educational Tool, Dr. Patricia Coyle-Rogers

**Brian Lake** A Bariatric Sensitivity Tool for Staff in a Bariatric Clinic, advisor Dr. Nina Wardell

Laura Lombardo Evidence-Based Resources for PACU Nurses Responsible for Extubating Post-Operative Bariatric Surgical Patients, advisor Dr. Mae Timmons

LeeAnn Mahnke Improving The Nebraska Medical Center's Internal Radiology Authorization Request Process, advisor Dr. Pam Schwalb

Samantha Palensky Business Plan to Purchase a New SPECT/CT Gamma Camera, advisor Dr. Pam Schwalb Charlyne Riecken Nurses' Perception of Communication Barriers to Palliative Care Consults in the Intensive Care Unit, advisor Dr. Layna Himmelberg

Jana Rus Development of an Evidence-Based Brochure to Reduce Readmission of Congestive Heart Failure Patients, advisor Dr. Mae Timmons

Samantha Stephany Educational
Effects Upon the Nursing Perceptions of
Hospital-Acquired Delirium, advisor Dr.
Layna Himmelberg

**Chaquita Thomas** Healthy Lifestyles & Obesity Prevention in African American Girls, advisor Dr. Layna Himmelberg

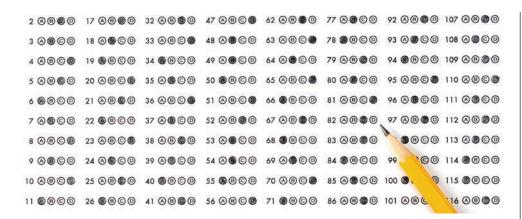
**John Urbanski** Nurses' Perception of Readiness for Pathway to Excellence Designation, advisor Dr. Peggy Gound

Interested in reading an unpublished abstract from this or a previous semester? The Clarkson Service League Library has an ongoing process that now makes it easy for students and alumni to review graduate Capstone projects.

To do this, go to the online Library Catalog available at http://bit.ly/139o57j. Type the author's name or a few keywords into the search box and hit enter. The Power Search link can be used to conduct a more advanced search

To view the entire list of Capstone projects, go to the "Lists" tab and select "Special Titles." Click the "Capstone Projects" link. Projects are listed alphabetically by authors. To view the actual documents—which can include the final paper, poster presentation, PowerPoint and brochures—click "View Media List" and the title of the document you wish to browse.

Questions or comments may be directed to the Library at 402.552.3387 or via e-mail at library@clarksoncollege.edu.



# Academic Integrity at the College

### Revamped policy to be implemented this fall semester

By Mikaela Knipe, Marketing Specialist, & Trish Weber, Radiologic Technology & Medical Imaging Instructor

Integrity is defined as an adherence to moral and ethical standards in personal, professional and organizational actions—a value taught to us as students, members of our profession and expected of us as Clarkson College alumni. Therefore, sustaining a culture of academic integrity is fundamental to the reputation of Clarkson College and the education we provide our students.

Each year, the College completes a review of the Academic Integrity Policy (AIP), which reiterates the commitment of Clarkson College to ethical standards in personal, professional and organizational actions. For students, the ethic lies at the heart of their education. If they are not living up to the set standards of academic integrity, the value of their education is compromised. For faculty and employees, instilling the importance of academic integrity shapes the reputation of Clarkson College and creates positive patterns of interaction with students.

The Faculty Handbook, Curriculum and Policy (FHCP) review committee began its evaluation of the current policy last September. "In the end, I think we have a strong policy that communicates how strongly the College feels about academic integrity; a policy that is aligned with the Mission and Vision of the College," said Trish Weber, chair of the Faculty Handbook, Curriculum and Policy Review committee.

The revised academic integrity policy will go into effect at the start of the fall semester.

Faculty and student responsibilities are now clearly stated, as are the possible disciplinary actions for students violating the policy. The Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) will review, track and report on every issue where academic integrity has been compromised.

The most significant change to the policy involves a set of leveled sanctions (warning, probation and dismissal) used to deter students from violating the policy. Students found guilty of an academic integrity violation will not only receive disciplinary action for the course from faculty but also a sanction from the VPAA's office.

Similar to the current policy, the student has the right to appeal to the office of the VPAA if s/he disagrees with the decision of the faculty. The VPAA and Vice President of Operations are co-chairs of the Academic Integrity committee, and they will convene a committee to review the appeal and make a decision.

#### Academic Integrity & the Alumni Association of Clarkson College

To show support for academic integrity as an integral component of the Clarkson College Mission and Values, the Alumni Association began offering study halls each semester to help students prepare for final exams. Beginning this fall semester, information, tips and strategies will be available during this time to instill a sense of pride in students to uphold their academic integrity and commitment to the overall College Mission.

# Sigma Theta Tau **Omicron Epsilon Chapter Update**

By Judi Dunn, Omicron Epsilon Membership Chair & Director of Professional Development

The Omicron Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau (STTI) annual meeting held April 16 was well attended by a wide variety of members. Updates were provided on chapter initiatives including increasing our presence on the web through the STTI "Circle" social networking site. Chapter elections have been held. Michelle Boomer serves as president, and Marsha Cravens is president elect. Vice president is Peggy Mazzeo, Jane Langemeier serves as secretary and JoAnn Acierno serves as treasurer.

#### **Fall Induction Ceremony Information**

The 2013 Induction Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 12 at 10 a.m. in Howard Hall on the Clarkson College campus. Please plan on joining us for this important event.

#### Interested in getting involved in STTI?

If you are an active registered nurse interested in becoming a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, contact Judi Dunn, Membership Chair, at 402.552.6123 or dunn@clarksoncollege.edu for more information.

Are you an inactive member who is interested in taking advantage of all the benefits of membership, including continuing education, networking, research and improving global health? Contact the STTI Member Services at 888.634.7575 to renew your membership.

## **Alumni Association Membership Form**

Annual membership drive runs through Aug. 31

The Alumni Association Board would like to invite you to renew or begin your membership in the Alumni Association. Thanks to membership support this past year, the Alumni Association was able to present a student scholarship, provide snacks for students during finals week, sponsor a continuing education event, provide iPads for the iPad Academy and assist with several other activities. The support of our graduates is necessary for the Alumni Association to continue contributing to these functions.

Alumni Association dues are \$25 per year. The membership year runs June 1 through May 31. Dues should be received no later than Aug. 31. As a member, you will receive the quarterly Alumni Times newsletter, invitations to alumni events and periodic special mailings. Alumni who graduated more than 50 years ago should mark "Nifty Fifty" below to receive free membership in the Alumni Association.

### ABOUT YOU

Please print.
Name
Maiden Name (if applicable)
Spouse's Name (if applicable)
Address
City/State/Zip
Home Phone
Cell Phone
E-mail

Employer Information			
Current Employer			
Address			
City/State/Zip			
Position/Title			
Education			
Class of	Nifty Fifty	□Yes	□No
Degree(s) Earned			

#### **Giving Back**

☐ I would like to receive more information about tax-deductable gifts.

I would like to invest in the future of Clarkson College by:

- ☐ Being a guest lecturer
- ☐ Spending time assisting with alumni activities
- ☐ Mentoring or tutoring current students

#### **CLASS NOTES**

n	ve enjoy nearing from you! Submit your professional and personal ews for the Class Notes section of the <i>Alumni Times</i> . If you've resented or have been published within the past year, we would lo
	b hear about it. Class Notes are printed in the January/February an uly/August issues.
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### **MEMBERSHIP**

Alumni Association dues are \$25 per year. The membership year runs June 1 through May 31. Please make checks payable to "Alumni Association of Clarkson College." Alumni who graduated more than 50 years ago receive free membership in the Alumni Association.

#### Membership dues \$25

Total amount enclosed \$

Contribution to the Alumni Scholarship Fund \$		
In memory of (name)		
	_	
In honor of (name)	_	

### **SUBMIT**

Send your completed membership form and survey (located on the back of this form) along with payment to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.

8 July/August 2013

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

# **Alumni Association Survey**

Please take a few minutes to fill out the following survey. Your input is greatly valued and assists the Alumni Association in providing programs and activities for alumni members, meeting regulatory requirements for Clarkson College and updating alumni information.

#### **ALUMNI EVENTS**

**CLASS NOTES** 

Record additional Class Notes information here.

Would you be interested in seeing the Outstanding Alumni Award reinstated?			
□Yes	□No		
Would you be intere	ested in participating in the iPad Academy?		
□Yes	□No		
List any continuing	education topics that would be of interest to you.		
List any events you	would like to see the Alumni Association sponsor.		

#### NEWSLETTER FEEDBACK

□Yes	e to see articles about alumni serving in the armed forces?
Have you serv list which brar □ No	ed or are you serving in the armed forces? If yes, please nch.
interesting fut	any professional or personal stories that would make cure articles in the <i>Alumni Times</i> newsletter? t have any stories I would like to share at this time. describe:
List topics of i	nterest that you would like to see in the newsletter.

# Alumni Weekend: Event Registration Form

This year, the Alumni Weekend events will be held on Thursday, Sept. 19 and Friday, Sept. 20. The Alumni Association of Clarkson College invites you to join us for year's activities.

#### **EVENT DETAILS**

#### Thursday, Sept. 19

#### 10 a.m. Alumni Brunch

The anniversary classes of 1953, 1963, 1973, 1983, 1988, 1993 and 2003 will be honored at the brunch held in Howard Hall. All alumni are invited to attend. Memory booklets will be given to graduates from the attending honored classes.

#### Noon Annual Alumni Meeting

The annual alumni meeting will be held on campus in Howard Hall from noon to 1 p.m. All paid alumni members are invited to attend.

#### 2:30 p.m. Convocation

Held at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, transportation will be provided from Clarkson College beginning at 1:30 p.m.

#### Friday, Sept. 20

# 7:30 a.m. Continuing education event, "Working with the Non-Compliant Client" Look for full event and registration details on page 12.

#### 7 p.m. 125th Anniversary Dinner

It's the 125th anniversary of Clarkson College. You and a guest are invited to celebrate our history at Joslyn Art Museum in the Storz Fountain Court from 7 to 10 p.m. Enjoy the sounds of the Mahr String Quartet, tour Joslyn Art Museum's special exhibit area and feast on a three course meal. This event is the perfect opportunity to reflect on your educational foundation and celebrate your health care career, because you—as an alumni—are what this milestone is all about.

#### **REGISTRATION**

#### **Contact Information**

Name		
Address		
City/State/Zip		
E-mail		
Program(s) completed		
Class of		

#### **Payment Options**

□ Continuing Education Event: \$20 for paid Alumni Association members and students; \$40 for non-members; \$10 for Clarkson College students.

### $\square$ 125th Anniversary Dinner held at Joslyn Art Museum:

\_\_\_\_ individual(s) will attend at a cost of \$45 per person.

Checks or money orders should be made payable to "Alumni Association of Clarkson College."

#### Reservation Details

- $\Box$  Yes, I will attend the Alumni Brunch on Sept. 19.
- ☐ Yes, I will attend the annual alumni meeting on Sept. 19.
- ☐ Yes, I will attend Convocation on Sept. 19.
  - □ I will need complimentary transportation to and from Clarkson College to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.
- ☐ Yes, I will attend the continuing education event "Working with the Non-Compliant Client" on Sept. 20. Event and registration details on page 12.
- ☐ Yes, I will attend the 125th Anniversary Dinner held at Joslyn Art Museum on Sept. 20.
  - □ \_\_\_\_ individual(s) will attend at a cost of \$45 per person.

### ADDITIONAL DETAILS

#### Parking

Event parking, maps and detailed information will be sent to you approximately one month prior to the event.

#### RSVP by Friday, Aug. 16

Clarkson College Alumni Association, attn: Alumni Coordinator 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131

#### **Event Details**

Additional event descriptions can be viewed on the back page of this issue.

#### Questions

Contact Rita VanFleet at vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu, 402.552.3516 or 800.647.5500.

### Continuing Education Event

## Working with the Non-Compliant Client

#### **EVENT DETAILS**

Friday, Sept. 20 from 7:30 a.m. to noon in Howard Hall on the Clarkson College campus in Omaha, Neb.

#### **Target Audience**

Health care professionals.

#### **Objectives**

The health care professional will be able to:

- > Define the non-compliant client.
- Describe appropriate methods to work with the noncompliant client.
- Outline the ethical issues related to non-compliance.
- Discuss actual case studies involving non-compliant clients in a variety of health care situations.

#### **EVENT AGENDA**

7:30 a.m. Sign in and welcome

8:05 a.m. Introduction to Non-Compliance & How to

Handle Barriers

Joe Councill, M.S.N., R.N., Assistant Professor, Undergraduate Nursing, Clarkson College

9:15 a.m. Ethical Issues Related to Non-Compliance

Linda Dabelstein, B.S.N., R.N., Coordinator, Risk Management, The Nebraska Medical Center

10:15 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Panel Discussion: Case Studies of Non-Compliance

Panelists include the following: Joe Councill, M.S.N., R.N.

Nicole Hardin, M.S., R.T.(R)(M), (CIIP)

Andreia Nebel, P.T., DP.T. Gretchen Jopp, RHIA, CPC

11:45 a.m. Evaluations and wrap up

#### **ADDITIONAL DETAILS**

#### Questions

Contact the Clarkson College Professional Development office at professional development@clarksoncollege.edu, 402.552.6148, 402.552.2311 or 800.647.5500.

#### **Registration Deadline**

Event registration deadline is Monday, Sept. 9.

#### **Parking & Event Location**

Howard Hall is located in the Student Center on the Clarkson College campus. Parking is available in any designated commuter student lot.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION

Attendance at the entire educational event is required for continuing education. Partial credit is not provided. CEU600.01CC.

#### **Health Care Business**

3.66 education hours awarded

#### Nursing

Clarkson College is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Nebraska Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

3.66 ANCC/NNA Nursing contact hours awarded NE12-15C04-8. Clarkson College is approved Iowa provider #345. 4.4 Iowa nursing contact hours

#### **Physical Therapy**

0.36 continuing education units corresponding to 3.6 contact hours approved by the NPTA.

#### Radiologic Technology

4.0 Category A credits approved by ASRT.

#### **REGISTRATION**

#### Contact Information

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

E-mail

Phone

Nursing license number required for nursing contact hours

#### **Payment Options**

☐ Clarkson College paid Alumni Association member: \$20

☐ Clarkson College student: \$10

☐ Other health care provider: \$40

Checks or money orders should be made payable to "Alumni Association, Clarkson College."

#### **Phone & Online Registration**

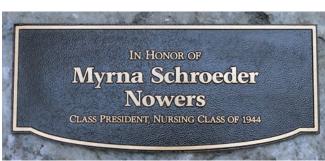
To make a credit card payment, call 402.552.6148, 402.552.2311 or 800.647.5500 or visit ClarksonCollege.edu/ProfessionalDevelopment/ContinuingEducationEvents.

#### **Mail Registration**

Send your completed registration form, along with payment, to Alumni Association, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.











JODY MODRELL

FOR THE LOVE

OF LEARNING

IN MEMORIAM

MARY B MARSHALL

MY AUNT







# Seventh Annual Spring Garden Walk: Event Recap

By Mikaela Knipe, Marketing Specialist

Beneath the sunshine and amongst the freshly bloomed flowers, employees, alumni and friends lined the pathway of the Clarkson Service League Heritage Garden on May 17 for the seventh annual Spring Garden Walk.

Dr. Louis Burgher, Clarkson College
President, welcomed those in attendance and introduced the Very Reverend Dean Thomas
Hurley of Trinity Episcopal Church to the podium for an opening invocation. Clarkson
College Board of Directors President, Dr.
Marlin Stahl, spoke candidly of the Garden and the positive impact it has made since its installment (made possible by the Clarkson
Service League) in 2006.

Over the last several years, members of the College community have purchased bricks, boulders and (for the first time this year) an amphitheater seat to dedicate to their loved ones. The proceeds are applied to the endowed scholarships offered to current and prospective students. Karen Nelson, current Clarkson Service League President, expressed her gratitude to those who have supported the effort.

Trish Weber, '12–'13 Clarkson College Alumni Association President, thanked the Clarkson Service League members for providing a space on campus that students, faculty and staff have truly come to value. After some closing remarks from Dr. Burgher, guests strolled the Garden area and gathered inside the Student Center for cookies and beverages.

AT TOP, DEDICATED BRICKS, BOULDERS & AMPHITHEATER SEATS WERE HONORED AT THE SPRING GARDEN WALK. AT LEFT, GARDEN VISITORS LISTEN TO THE EVENT'S SPEAKERS DURING THE SEVENTH ANNUAL SPRING GARDEN WALK CEREMONY.

### **Alumni Class Notes**

Class notes are published in the January/ February and July/August editions of the Alumni Times. We are always happy to hear from alumni and want to share the information with others. If you have a story or information that you would like to share in this section, please let us know. Information can pertain to achievements, awards, marriages, births, deaths, travel and other significant news.

When sending information, please include maiden name, if applicable, program and year(s) of graduation. E-mail your information to vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu, call 402.552.3516 or write to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.

#### 1940s

#### **Opal Havens Cooper ('44)**

I have been retired for a number of years. I go to Body Recall (an exercise program) three days a week. I spend my days making quilts and am working on 20 for my great grandkids. My children and grandchildren already have three quilts apiece. I also make afghans at night while I watch T.V.

#### 1950s

#### Patricia Patrick Wills ('55)

I have been retired for a number of years. I try to keep in touch with some in our class of 1955. One is Mary Jane Wallahan, who also lives in Missouri.

#### 1960s

#### Daisy Hughson Eickhoff ('63)

Always proud to represent Clarkson School of Nursing in my professional life. Besides working at Tuscon Medical Center for 14 years, I was in Texas and worked for five years as Nurse Manager of Maternal/Child Services at East Texas Medical Center and as an adjunct faculty for University of Texas—Tyler campus. The other 30 years of active nursing was in Omaha at Midlands Hospital in Papillion, Neb.

#### Trudy Bergren Hershner ('64)

I am now fully retired after serving five years as our Grace United Methodist Church Parish Nurse. After working in acute care, long-term

care and teaching for 10 years, parish nursing was a wonderful way to end a varied and fulfilling nursing career. Now it's time to relax, volunteer and work on my golf game!

#### Ruth Briggs Siefert ('66)

Rita Miller Rohrrsen ('66) and I took a Baltic Cruise in September 2012. We especially enjoyed the Hermitage in St. Petersburg. Rita lives in Atlanta, Ga., and I live in northwest Arkansas, but we keep in touch and wish we'd see more news from the class of 1966.

I retired as Lieutenant Colonel from the Georgia Army National Guard after serving for 23 years. I had to borrow the full \$2000 it cost for the three years of nursing school from the Clarkson School of Nursing. I joined the Army as a senior student and was able to repay my school loan with the pay I received during my

The day before graduation, I was summoned to Miss Ann Anderson's office, and she asked me how I proposed to repay my loan. She didn't believe me when I told her I had paid off my loan the day before. All she said was, "Dismissed." There was no pat on the back or thanks. Times have changed, but I'm so thankful the money was there for me. Actually, I arrived at school with no idea of how I could finance my education. I have always felt Clarkson School of Nursing provided me with a great start in the nursing profession.

#### 1970s

#### Susan Stephens Burgher ('70)

I was lucky to spend a day shopping and lunching with my roommate, Susan Andersen Bamford, in Kansas City the first week of May. The next week, I met Kathy Leaders Fober for lunch in Omaha. Great times with old friends!

#### Nikie Herrera ('70)

Have worked the last 20 years at Surgery West and Methodist Cancer Center in Omaha. Working with head and neck surgical oncology patients. The clinic started with Dr. W. Karrer and Dr. Dan Lydiatt and has grown to eight physicians. It has been a great learning experience. Clarkson School of Nursing gave me a great foundation.

#### LoyAnn Kuhlman Rossel ('70)

I retired in March 2013! I worked at Clarkson Hospital for two years. Next was Bergan Mercy in Omaha, Neb. for eight years. With a move to Lincoln, Neb., I was hired at Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center. I worked there for 33 years. Nursing is such an interesting occupation. I have worked in medical-surgical, occupational health and telephone triage. Thank you Clarkson School of Nursing for the training in nursing. That great knowledge base let me grow and continue to learn.

#### Cheryl Frutchey ('79, '05)

Ph.D. in progress at Oklahoma City University.

#### 1980s

#### Susan DeVries Stinson ('87, '88)

I live in Wisconsin with my husband, Gordon; two children, Sam, 6, and Sarah, 4; and a little one on the way—expecting end of June. Working in a department of nursing—really enjoying my job.

#### 1990s

#### Donna Garbacz Bader ('93)

Completed the first online Forensic Nursing course for West Virginia University. Editorial Board for American Forensic Science Examiners Institute. Scholarship review committee for American Association of Critical Care Nursing. Invited as member by International Nurses Association as a Worldwide Leader in Healthcare. Certified Criminalist-I, Certified Forensic Science Consultant I. Certified American Nurses Credentialing Center—Medical-Surgical

#### Cindy Walsh ('98)

I have presented nationally a few times over the past year for the Hospital Engagement Network (HEN). This is a partnership with the American Hospital Association and Partnership for Patients. We are on a push to reduce patient harm by 40 percent and reduce hospital readmissions by 20 percent by December 2013. A great resource for this project is Kristin Bailey, a Clarkson College alumna. She is heading up this project for the State of Nebraska through the Nebraska Hospital Association.

# The Impact of a Solid Educational Foundation

M.S.N. ('11) & B.S.N. ('04) alumna shares her perspective on her Clarkson College education

By Amber Wagner-Connolly, Undergraduate Nursing Instructor

I have always been an avid dreamer, goal setter and list maker. Almost 15 years ago when I walked through the doors of Clarkson College, those three things that I did so often were put into overdrive. I haven't taken a break ever since, and I don't plan on doing so anytime soon. There are too many goals to reach and so many lists to complete. I have too many dreams in mind that I need to make come true. With the help of Clarkson College, no dream seems too big. I have learned timing is everything, and that being in the right place at the right time is so important. Clarkson College is the right place, and now is the right

I am proud to be a nurse, and I have loved every experience the career has brought me. I have a passion to share the love of my career with others. Being able to say you love what

you do is something very special that not everyone can say in his or her lifetime. I am so blessed that at a young age I have realized my limitless potential, and my success continues to grow. My personal goals in life, my career goals and my educational goals all go handin-hand, and it all begins with the foundation Clarkson College has given me.

Today as a nursing instructor and a doctorate student in global health, my interests include embracing all of the fast-paced changes currently going on in the world around us. The fact that I am a lifelong learner keeps me going and reaching for my goals and to ultimately make a positive impact. My current mission includes staying as current as possible with health care reform and how this will affect us in our role as nurses. I have taken a special interest in community engagement

and service learning, which I believe are the building blocks to a successful change in our current system.

I am determined to be among the best in what I do and be able to share my knowledge with others. I am in the right place at the right time—here at Clarkson College among the best of the best where all my dreams come true!

Have thoughts about your education or career path?

We would love to hear them! Contact Rita VanFleet at vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu or 402 552 3516

#### 2000s

#### Jean Ellis Crosby ('01)

I continue to work as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) at the Houston Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and I was promoted to Chief CRNA in April 2012. My husband and I welcomed our first child, a boy, on Dec. 17, 2012.

#### Mathew E. Beeman ('07)

The Beeman family has been very busy throughout 2012-13. In April through December 2012. I was enrolled in the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine Flight Nurse Training Program.

During this time (July '12), we moved from Ohio to Illinois, and we welcomed our third son, Joshua Valenta Beeman, into the world two weeks later. He is quite the bubbly addition to the family, and his two older brothers love him very much. In January through May 2013, I deployed to southwest Asia and flew some intense missions. I learned a lot and am eternally grateful to have served next to America's finest.

#### IN MEMORIUM

#### Class of 1994

Amy J. Steinberg Bianchini died May 31, 2013.

#### LOOKING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH FORMER CLASSMATES?

The Alumni office has a listing of contact information for Clarkson College alumni and would love to help you in your efforts to reconnect. This online system is updated regularly and contains most names and contact information for all graduated classes.

If you are looking to touch base with a former classmate, contact Rita VanFleet at 402.552.3516 or via e-mail at vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu.

Please know that contact information is not released without obtaining consent.

### **FVFNTS**:

Thursday, Sept. 19 - All Alumni Brunch at 10 a.m. and annual paidalumni luncheon meeting from noon to 1 p.m. Both events to be held on campus in Howard Hall.

Convocation at Trinity Cathedral at 2:30 p.m. All alumni are invited to attend. Transportation to the event will be provided.

Friday, Sept. 20 - "Working with the Non-Compliant Client" continuing education event from 7:30 a.m. to noon in Howard Hall. Fill out the registration form on page 12 to attend.

Join us as Clarkson College celebrates its 125 anniversary with a dinner at Joslyn Art Museum in Storz Fountain Court at 7 p.m.

Alumni Weekend Events - Register to participate in this year's Alumni Weekend events by completing the form on page 11.



BSN STUDENT CARLA PAULA RAMIREZ SHARES A THOUGHT AT THE LAST MULTI-CULTURAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION MEETING.

# DID YOU KNOW?

FUN FACTS FROM OUR STUDENTS' CULTURES

There are 55 countries in Africa that are recognized by both the African Union (AU) and the United Nation (UN).

Cameron and Togo used to be former German West Africa colonies.

In Korea, everyone is required to have health insurance regardless of their income. The monthly payment is usually under \$30.

Every hospital in Korea allows clients to walk in without making appointments.

Busy times may cause a longer wait, but clients have the option to come back to the hospital when there aren't as many people waiting.

Removing your shoes before entering a home is customary in many Asian cultures. Filipinos believe shoes or slippers are dirty from outside environments and remove their footwear out of consideration and to keep their homes clean.

# Students of All Types Coming Together in New Organization

By Mikaela Knipe, Marketing Specialist

Not unlike many colleges and universities across the country, Clarkson College is seeing a gradual increase of international students year over year. Unlike many of these institutions, however, Clarkson College has lacked a sanctioned organization for students to discuss and celebrate their individual cultures

Last summer, Seithon Kpokoudio, a BSN student from Togo, pondered the possibility of mobilizing a multi-cultural group at Clarkson College. "I noticed the push for cultural competency into the health care field and how classes like Core II and III have made culture their focus," Kpokoudjo said. "With the increase of international students, we thought about starting a multi-cultural group to bridge the gap between what students learn in theory and the real world." Kpokoudjo added that in researching colleges and universities across the Omaha-Metro area, nearly all of them offer some type of student cultural group. "As I used to be the president of the Bellevue University Multicultural Club, it was an imperative to be involved in getting this group started here at Clarkson College."

Kpokoudjo first consulted Associate Professor of Nursing Marilyn Rosmann about his interest in forming a multi-cultural group on campus. They discussed how a group of this sort could be helpful to students from other countries and to those with a native language other than English. Professor Rosmann suggested he ask students if they were interested and, if so, they could meet informally at the Rosmann farm for a potluck.

Kpokoudjo and several other students accepted Professor Rosmann's invitation and gathered at her home last August. "It was an opportunity for everybody involved to introduce ourselves to other group members," said Kpokoudjo. They discussed objectives for the group and the requirements outlined by Student Government Association (SGA) to be recognized as an official organization. By the start of the fall 2012 semester, the Multi-Cultural Student Association (MCSA) was born and set out for its first recruitment engagement at the annual fall SGA BBQ.

To ensure the group received ample support, Professor Rosmann approached General Education Assistant Professor Katie Kirkpatrick to see if she would be interested in being a co-sponsor. "I am a big fan of these types of groups, so I came on board very willingly," said Kirkpatrick. This past April, they welcomed several students and employees to the first official meeting of the spring semester. In attendance was Kpokoudjo, Bakir Badjaglana of Togo, Carla Paula Ramirez of the Philippines, Gina Huh of South Korea, Phattrawan Suksuwan of Thailand, as well as employees Nicole Caskey (Resources Librarian) and Rita VanFleet (Alumni Coordinator)

The attendees circled the room to share about their backgrounds, why they are interested in the MCSA and what they hope to gain from the organization. They also outlined a number of goals they hope to achieve, which include:

- To share our rich backgrounds with one another and the College
- > To discuss how our cultures influence how we view and practice health care
- To share advice on College issues, such as sharing resources and study habits, organizing study groups—really just create an overall support system for students
- Develop a mentorship program that pairs first- and second-year international students with third- and fourth-year students

While Kirkpatrick and Rosmann will continue to serve as facilitators for the MCSA, they envision it to be a student-led group. "We currently do not have student board members, but we hope to soon, as the MCSA continues to grow," Kirkpatrick said.

Moving forward, the MCSA plans to meet once per month, and students, families and Clarkson College alumni are all invited to attend. If you are interested in attending the next meeting, contact Katie Kirkpatrick at kirkpatrickkatie@clarksoncollege.edu.



MELINDA FLOERSCH, ASHLEY RAWLINGS, JULIE RICKABAUGH, STEFANIE QAHHAAR & JENNIFER MAHONEY.

### Students' Service Reaches First Lady

By Mikaela Knipe, Marketing Specialist

For six weeks of each semester, students in the NS 431 Professional Nursing Care of Families class are privileged to meet twice a week with Julie Rickabaugh, a 43-year-old woman with Down Syndrome. The goal of this course is to familiarize students with home health nursing and the importance of assessing a learning need of their client and then educating him/her about that area. In Julie's case, the students selected healthy eating and exercise. They prepared a packet on diet and exercise, worked with Julie on a game about government quidelines and exercised with her.

During one of the visits, Julie expressed her fondness of President and Mrs. Obama. Recalling Michelle Obama's passion for healthy living and her development of the "Let's Move" campaign, an initiative dedicated to solving the problem of childhood obesity. The students came up with a unique idea that involved contacting the First Lady herself to help Julie continue with the diet and exercise plan they created for her.

Two of the students, Ashley Rawlings and Melinda Floersch, assisted Julie with writing a letter to Michelle Obama about the new lifestyle the students had introduced her to and how she is benefitting from it. Within a week or so, Julie found a signed letter from the White House in her mailbox. In the letter, the First Lady expressed her appreciation for Julie taking the time to write to her and also discussed the "Let's Move" campaign.

Nursing Instructor Julie Lawlor met Julie and her mother, Nancy, through her affiliation with the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging (ENOA). Each semester, Lawlor assigns students to complete an educational project for the Rickabaugh's. "The students really enjoyed this family," said Lawlor. "Julie is so joyful and loving, and her mom loves the interaction, as well."

# **Celebration of Writing**& the Creative Arts

By Katie Kirkpatrick, General Education Assistant Professor & Writing Lab Coordinator

The third annual Celebration of Writing and the Creative Arts at Clarkson College was a wonderful success. Each year, the Celebration displays the many creative talents of Clarkson College students and employees. Submissions this year included paintings, photography, short stories, poems and textiles.

New to the Celebration this year was the all-digital format. Submissions were photographed, and each submitter's voice was recorded describing their medium, their inspiration behind the piece and their favorite aspect of the piece. Then, photos were merged with voice recordings to create a video of each submission. The videos were then placed on the Clarkson College YouTube channel as a featured playlist, and QR barcodes were distributed around campus, so everyone could access the playlist from their mobile devices.

As an exciting addition, the all-digital format opened up the event to our distance students. For instance, the first place student winner, Angela Cook, is a distance student who submitted her photos and voice recordings electronically. Thus, the College is pleased to be able to offer the event to all students and employees, whether they are on campus or distance.

The Alumni Association generously donated \$200, \$100 and \$50 educational grants for the top three student submissions. First place was awarded to BSN student Angela Cook for her photography collage "The Forgotten." Radiologic Technology and Medical Imaging student Jamie Bryant was awarded second place for her photograph "Jellyfish." Third place went to BSN student Kalen Knight for his painting "Pride, Peace & Equality."

Human Resources donated VISA gift cards to the top three employee submissions. First place was awarded to Glenda Trecek, Student Services Representative, for her mixed media painting "Enjoy the Ride." BSN faculty member Jody Scebold was awarded second place for her painting "Fluid of Emotions," and adjunct faculty member Jennifer Memolo took third place for her short story "Dreaming of Fire."

This event would not be possible without the kind support of the Alumni Association, Human Resources and everyone who donated their time to help organize and judge the event.

#### INTERESTED IN SEEING THIS YEAR'S ENTRIES?

The all-digital format of this year's event allows users to view all of the submissions at their leisure. Simply scan the QR barcode with your smartphone to view the entries via the Clarkson College YouTube channel.



**COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT** RECENT GRADUATES





DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT NATALIE VRBKA & DR. PATRICIA BOOK PERRY FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENT KATIE KIRKPATRICK SMILE WITH THEIR AWARDS IN HAND.

# Kirkpatrick & Vrbka Receive Faculty of the Year & Distinguished Service Award

By Mikaela Knipe, Marketing Specialist

Clarkson College employees stood and delivered a rolling applause at the announcement of Natalie Vrbka as the Distinguished Service Award recipient and Katie Kirkpatrick as the Dr. Patricia Book Perry Faculty of the Year Award recipient at May's annual awards luncheon.

#### **Distinguished Service Award**

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes a member of the support or administrative/ professional staff who exhibits leadership and outstanding service to Clarkson College. The Dr. Patricia Book Perry Faculty of the Year Award recognizes individuals who have made substantial contributions to education at Clarkson College. Nominees for this award must hold a faculty rank in an academic or professional development program and have at least three years of teaching experience at Clarkson College.

Vrbka began her position as Assistant to the Registrar in 2007 and has impressed many with her strong leadership and social skills. "I felt so honored to be presented with the Distinguished Service Award this year, Vrbka said. "I am happy to be a part of the Clarkson College team and Student Services particularly. I am so very thankful to those who nominated me." The following statements were made about Vrbka in her nomination

Natalie shares information and ideas for improvements within the Registrar's office. She mentors others in the suite, including co-workers, work studies and ambassadors. She gets along very well with everyone she encounters and has great working relationships.

Natalie's commitment to the College is remarkable. She has been a student mentor at the College. She serves on the Holiday Committee, Student Activities Committee and serves on two CSF committees.

She is always the first to volunteer for an assignment and is always willing to assist with special projects.

Natalie's excellence shows in her organizational skills, especially with our graduation activities. She takes time to make sure all of the details are in order.

#### Faculty of the Year Award

Kirkpatrick joined the College in 2009 as an Instructor in the General Education department and was promoted to Assistant Professor in 2012. She initiated the development of a writing center on campus shortly after being hired, giving her a secondary title of Writing Lab Coordinator. "Receiving the Faculty of the Year Award is an enormous honor," Kirkpatrick shared. "Not only do I join a long list of devoted, professional, productive faculty members who have received the award in the past; I also get to delight in the idea that my work at the College is making a difference. There is no

bigger thrill than to have the work I perform daily, which encompasses my passion for teaching and my advocacy for writing, qualify for this prestigious award." Some of the comments entered in her nomination forms are as follows:

This recipient holds very high standards for herself and for students. She has continually developed courses and additional resources to help students be successful.

She has taken English education to new levels with her motivation and creativity. Under her direction, the Writing Lab appointments have increased more than two-fold. She has also included the functionality of the Writing Lab to include synchronous online tutoring, a huge step for the online campus.

She is extremely well respected by her peers. She has improved the academic environment by presenting writing workshops and one-on-one help to colleagues. She also created and organized the annual Celebration of Writing and the Creative Arts, which has been highly successful and a wonderful way to highlight the talents of our student, staff and faculty.

#### Congratulations & Thank You

A final thank you and congratulations is extended to Vrbka and Kirkpatrick for their exemplary service and dedication to the ongoing success of Clarkson College.

# **April 2013 Clarkson College Graduates**

Angelee Christine Dougherty

#### Academic Excellence Awards

Presented to the graduate in each program with the highest grade point average.

#### Michael Glen White

Associate of Science in Health Information Management

### Kimberly A. Moss Bachelor of Science in Medical

Imaging Margaret Ann Cordes

## Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Laura Christine Knutson Master in Health Care Administration

Jean Ann Beumler Master of Science in Nursing

#### Certificate in Imaging Informatics

Jensen Kaye Duysen  $\lambda$ Cheyenne Rebecca Jaster  $\lambda^{***}$ Ashlee Renee Murphy \* Jessica Kay Scheer \*\*\* Steve St. Louis \*\*\* Laura L. Trubic

#### Associate of Science in Health Information Management

Nicole Lee Steinert \*\*\*\* Michael Glen White \*\*\*\*

#### **Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging**

Jensen Kaye Duysen λ Cheyenne Rebecca Jaster  $\lambda^{***}$ Shelly L. Lincoln λ Kimberly A. Moss λ\*\*\*\* Ashlee Renee Murphy \* Janet Thi Nguyen λ\* Jessica Kay Scheer λ\*\*\* Steve St. Louis \*\*\* Laura L. Trubic

#### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

Sarah Elizabeth Anderson  $\dagger \Sigma^*$ Brittany Marie Arnold †∑\*\*\*\* Whitney Anne Bennett † Chelsy Rae Binkley Amelia Patricia Burger∑ Michelle Lynn Cavanaugh Margaret Ann Cordes \*\*\*\* Ashley Elizabeth Corner  $\uparrow \Sigma^*$ 

Jessica Bo Dowd †Σ\* Kirsty Louise Eden \* Karly Elbracht Brianna Lynae Figgins \* Anna Elizabeth Fortina Amy Renee Getty Kier † Abby Lynn Greenlee ∑\* Whitney Nicole Hill Cassandra Denise Hofmann Jenni Horton ∑ Katrina V. Hotka-Truempler \*\* Amber Nicole Howard  $\dagger \Sigma$ Jenna Lee Hunt †\* Courtney Meyer Jackson †∑\* Rita Mwimbi Kaburu Jessica Anne Kealy Angela Christine Keele Ashley Ann Knoble Alison Renee Lienemann Erin N. Long  $\Sigma$ Kelsey M. Mach † Lindsey McNutt∑ Erin Elizabeth Meier Jessica Marie Munro † Kelsey Lee Nagel Chelsie M. Palmer † Emily Rachael Pickett †Σ\*\* Melissa K. Potter Samantha L. Rambo \*\* Brittany Nicole Randall Nancy Ann Rasmussen Brittany Anne Rice Courtney Kay Robinson ∑ Joslyn Elizabeth Rogge ∑\* Jessica Rosenkrantz Heidi Marie Ruhsam Jessica Morgan Rupp∑ Caitlin Elizabeth Sadlemyer Jessica Amanda Schramm †\*\*\*\* Holly Maria Sharrai Justine Laura Smith †\*\*\*\* Therese Ann Steffes Megan Leigh Steingraber Brittney Beth Sturgeon Rachelle Ann Tappe † Lisa Elaine Tompkins ∑ Jancye Brooke Trost Ashley Anne Urzendowski †∑ Sharon Nicole Vandegrift †\*\* Sydney Michelle Vogt † Kristin Leigh Wellwood \* Emily Jayne Wickard

Morgan Elizabeth Williams

#### **Post-Baccalaureate Certificate** in Health Information Administration

Clarissa Dawn Phillips \*\*\*

#### Master in Health Care Administration

Laura Christine Knutson LeeAnn Caroline Mahnke Σ Samantha S. Palensky∑ Misty Dawn Sachs

#### Master of Science in Nursing

Jean Ann Beumler Amanda Kay Bogard Lee Marvin Carlson Shannon Renee Fecher Stephanie Michelle Hogan Sherry Elizabeth Hron Renée Michelle Johnson †∑ Brandon Anthony Jordan † Erin McKenzie Jordan † Nathan Edward Kaiser Brian Matthew Lake † Charlyne Rae Riecken Samantha Marie Stephany Chaquita Antonia Thomas John Urbanski

### Post-Master's Certificate in Health Care Administration

Sheryl Ann Jungbluth

### Post-Master's Certificate in Nursina

Molly Ann Layton Sherri L. Selvage ∑

#### **Academic Honors**

Academic honors are conferred on Bachelor of Science and Associate of Science degree candidates who, upon graduation, distinguish themselves by maintaining a high cumulative grade point average. To qualify for academic honors, students must have completed the minimum number of required residency hours.

Honors are distinguished by: \*\*\*\* Summa Cum Laude 3.85 and above

- Magna Cum Laude 3.75 through 3.84
- Cum Laude 3.65 through 3.74
- With Distinction 3.50 through 3.64

Honor societies at the College:

- λ Member of Delta Chapter Lambda Nu National Honor Society for the Radiologic and Imaging Sciences
- † Member of Omicron Epsilon Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing
- Σ Member of National Society of Leadership and Success Sigma Alpha Pi Interdisciplinary Honor Society

Please note: Honors designations were based upon most current information at press time. Clarkson College apologizes for any errors or omissions.



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# CALLING ALL ADVENTURERS!

See the Holy Land on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Israel on Feb. 26–March 8, 2014. Highlights include three hospital visits, pilgrimage sites, a Druze village, Roman ruins, a wine-tasting and Eastern markets.

The \$3759 cost includes round-trip air and land transport, 4-star hotels, medical and travel insurance, a private Israeli guide, admission fees, and all breakfasts and dinners. You may also earn continuing education hours at no additional cost.

For more information, contact Dr. Pat Brennan at brennan@clarksoncollege.edu or 402.552.6125; or visit the Travel to Israel link at ClarksonCollege.edu.





FROM TOP, MARY LEO ('72) & GLORIA BROWN ('72) BEFORE LAST YEAR'S RIVERBOAT CRUISE. ALUMNAE REVIEW THEIR 1987 CROSSWINDS YEARBOOK & REMINISCE DURING LAST YEAR'S BRUNCH.

# **Upcoming Alumni Weekend Events**

Celebrate with us by filling out the registration form on page 11

This year marks the celebrations for not only the anniversary classes of 1953, 1963, 1973, 1983, 1988, 1993 and 2003 but also the 125th anniversary of the founding of our College. Just think about the progress and impact Clarkson College and its graduates have made over the past 125 years. It is truly something to be celebrated, and you—as an alumnus—are what it's all about. The Alumni Association Board and officers invite you to participate in this year's exciting activities.

### Thursday, Sept. 19: Brunch, Annual Meeting & Convocation

The annual Alumni Brunch will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 19 on campus in Howard Hall. All alumni are invited to attend with the classes of 1953, 1963, 1973, 1983, 1988, 1993 and 2003 being the honorary anniversary classes. The annual meeting of the Alumni Association will follow the brunch at noon.

Beginning at 1 p.m., Ollie the Trolley will transport attendees from the College to

Trinity Cathedral where Convocation will take place at 2:30 p.m. All alumni are invited to attend Convocation to participate in the annual welcoming of new Clarkson College students.

#### Friday, Sept. 20: Continuing education event & 125th Anniversary Dinner

A continuing education event, "Working with the Non-Compliant Client," is planned for Friday morning from 7:30 a.m. until noon on campus in Howard Hall. The registration form for this event is on page 12.

Celebrate our 125th anniversary with us! You and a guest are invited to celebrate our history at Joslyn Art Museum in the Storz Fountain Court from 7 to 10 p.m.

#### Questions

If you have questions about the events, contact Rita VanFleet at 402.552.3516 or vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu.